[Translation]

Introduction of Train between Moradabad and Dehradun

4139. SHRI KISHAN LAL DILER : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a new train between Moradabad and Dehradun;

(b) if so, the time by which the said train is likely to be introduced; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to operational and resource constraints.

[English]

Gauge Conversion of New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri Line

4140. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether conversion of New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri line has been taken up for execution;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to be taken up and completed during the 9th Plan period.

(c) Does not arise.

Booklet Published by Mode Advertising Private Ltd.

4141. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the book-let entitled "Goa-sea, sand, sun, frolic and fun", published by Mode Adversing Private Limited for the Tourism Department of Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also aware of the various mistakes/misrepresentation about Goa and its culture published in this book-let and the protest of Goan people and demand of immediate withdrawal of the book-let; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism had produced 1,00,000 copies of a folder on Goa entitled "Goa-Sea, Sand, Sun, Frolic and Fun" through M/s Mode Advertising Pvt. Ltd. in 1995-96 at a total cost of Rs. 3.39 lakhs. This advertising agency was selected after resorting to competitive tendering.

(c) and (d). Write-ups in the local Goan print media about mistakes/misrepresentation about Goa was brought to the notice of the Department of Tourism and immediate instructions were given to all Government of India Tourist Offices in India and abroad for its withdrawal. The Manager, Government of India Tourist Office, Goa has been told to forward the corrected version of the text matter to this Department so that, rectifications can be made in the folder, at the expense of M/s Mode Advertising Private Limited. The Agency has already been black-listed by the Department of Tourism.

Derailments

4142. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the parts of the country where maximum number of derailments have taken place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : Statistics of train accidents are maintained Railway zone-wise. During April-November '96, maximum number of derailments - 36 - has taken place on South Eastern Railway, followed by 29 on Northern Railway and 28 on Central Railway.

Use of Safdarjung Airport

4143. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Out of use Safdarjung Airport may face closure" appearing in the "Financial Express" dated August 21, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(c) details of the plans worked out and proposals under consideration for putting Safdarjung Airport to optimum use?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present, Safdarjung airport is used by Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. and BSF (Border Security Force) in addition to the Delhi Flying Club and Gliding Club. Occasionally VVIP flights are operated from this airport.

(c) Keeping in view its location and operational restrictions, this airport is being put to optimum use.